

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Continuation of U.S. Appln. No. 09/411,256

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Once amended) A load handling apparatus for a counterbalance type forklift, comprising:
 - one tiltable operating lever disposed on a body of the forklift;
 - a mast tiltable in an anteroposterior direction and disposed on said forklift;
 - a liftable fork disposed on said mast;
 - a solenoid proportional control valve, in which a tilting speed of said mast and lifting and lowering speeds of said fork are controlled by a degree of opening of said solenoid proportional control valve, said degree of opening being proportional to a tilting angle of said operating lever;
 - a switch attached to said operating lever; and
 - a controller [for controlling so as to output a signal for tilting] that tilts said mast when said operating [level] lever is tilted and [under a state where] said switch is in a first switching state [operated], that [output a signal for lifting or lowering] lifts or lowers said fork when [only] said operating lever is [operated; and disable actions of lifting and lowering] tilted and said switch is in a second switching state, and that prevents lifting and lowering of said fork when said switch is changed from said first switching state to said second switching state [to an inactive condition under a state where] while said operating lever is tilted [in an tilting operation condition unless said operating lever is returned to a neutral condition].

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2. (Once amended) A load handling apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said controller includes an inhibiting circuit for stopping the tilting action of the
mast and the lifting or lowering action of the fork when said switch is switched from said first
switching state to said second switching state while said operating lever is being operated.